insurance cover to non-IRDP milch animals owned by people below the poverty line in selected districts.

Besides these, the States are also taking up a number of programmes in order to promote rearing of milch animals, and provide health cover and nutritional inputs.

National Statistical Commission

*110. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a National Statistical Commission to generate timely and reliable statistics for policy formulation and effective planning and implementation;

(b) if so, what are the details regarding members, tenure, functions, allocation of works to different members etc.;

(c) whether the information would be made available to public on website; and

(d) when will the Commission become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Government of India, through Resolution No. M/13011/3/99-Admn. IV of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation dated 19th January, 2000, established a National Statistical Commission with Dr. C. Rangarajan, Governor, Andhra Pradesh as its part-time Chairman and the following as part-time members:

(1) Shri V.R. Rao, ex-Director, Central Statistical Organisation and UN Advisor

(2) Shri S.M. Vidwans, ex-Director (Economics & Statistics), Government of Maharashtra and UN Expert

(3) Prof. J. Roy, Professor Emeritus at Indian Statistical Institute

(4) Dr. Prem Narain, Emeritus Scientist, Indian Agricultural Research Institute and ex-Director, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute

(5) Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Director-General, National Council of Applied Economic Research

(6) Dr. V.R. Panchmukhi, Director-General, Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries

(7) Dr. Y. Venugopal Reddy, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India

(8) Dr. K. Srinivasan, Executive Director, Population Foundation of India and ex-Director of International Institute of Population Studies

(9) Prof. S. Tendulkar, Delhi School of Economics and Vice-Chairman, National Advisory Board on Statistics

(10) Dr. A.B.L. Srivastava, Chief Consultant, Educational Consultants India Ltd., & ex-Professor, National Council of Educational Research and Training

(11) Dr. Fredie Ardeshir Mehta, Eminent economist and Director, M/s Tata Sons Ltd.

Terms of reference

(i) To examine critically the deficiencies of the present statistical system in terms of timeliness, reliability and adequacy;

(ii) To recommend measures to correct the deficiencies and revamp the statistical system to generate timely and reliable statistics for the purpose of policy and planning in Government at different levels of administrative structure;

(iii) To recommend permanent and effective coordinating mechanism for ensuring integrated development of the

decentralised statistical system in the country;

(iv) To review the existing legislation for the collection of statistical information and to recommend amendments, where necessary, to achieve the objective of collection and dissemination of timely, reliable and adequate statistics;

(v) To review the existing organisation of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (Statistics Wing) and other statistical units of the Government and to make recommendations on their staffing and training requirements to enable them to cope with the increase and development of statistical services;

(vi) To examine the need for instituting statistical audit of the range of services provided by the Government and local bodies and make suitable recommendations thereof; and

(vii) To recommend any other measures for improving the statistical system in the country.

The tenure of the Commission is one year. The Resolution does not specify allocation of work to different members.

(c) The information relating to the composition, terms of reference and tenure of the Commission is available to public on web site (http:/www.nic.in/stat).

(d) The Commission has already begun work. It held its first meeting on 9th February, 2000.